

Top Secret



DIRECTORATE OF
INTELLIGENCE

Central Intelligence Bulletin

State Dept. review completed

Top Secret

196

C

20 March 1971

25X1

Approved For Release 2003/09/02 : CIA-RDP79T00975A018600010002-3

Approved For Release 2003/09/02 : CIA-RDP79T00975A018600010002-3

20 March 1971

Central Intelligence Bulletin

CONTENTS

ITALY: Police raids were probably intended to quell criticism from the left. (Page 9)

25X1

Approved For Release 2003/09/02 : CIA-RDP79T00975A018600010002-3

Next 11 Page(s) In Document Exempt

Approved For Release 2003/09/02 : CIA-RDP79T00975A018600010002-3

Approved For Release 2003/09/02 : CIA-RDP79T00975A018600010002-3

ITALY: Nationwide police raids against extreme rightist groups were probably intended to quell recent criticism from the left over the government's earlier failure to move more forcefully against the right.

Interior Minister Restivo, in statements to the parliament on 18 March, explained that the 32 police searches conducted during the past week were the result of investigations begun in December on alleged coup plans of an extreme right extraparliamentary group. According to Restivo, documents were uncovered which constituted "criminal intent." Restivo, whose actions were supported by the coalition partners in the government, promised a prompt and thorough investigation of the matter.

The organization involved in the alleged December plot was the National Front headed by neo-Fascist prince Junio Borghese. Borghese, who is being sought by the police, has been involved in such plots in the past, but has never been taken seriously by responsible officials.

25X1

The political motivation of the present investigation is underscored by the fact that the searches were carried out by the Ministry of the Interior without prior coordination either with the SID or the Carabinieri. Moreover, the government--which had been aware of the alleged coup planning since early December and which knew that it constituted no serious threat--made its move only after it appeared that the left might exploit the government's seeming inaction.

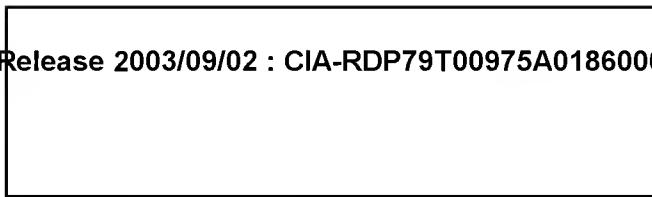
(continued)

25X1

Approved For Release 2003/09/02 : CIA-RDP79T00975A018600010002-3

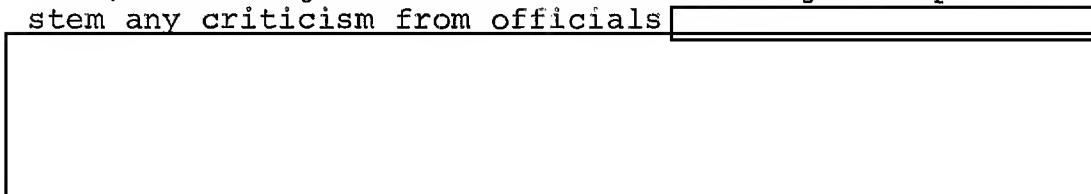
25X1

Approved For Release 2003/09/02 : CIA-RDP79T00975A018600010002-3



The embassy believes the government may now find it necessary to balance its activity by moving against extraparliamentary elements on the left. Such an action would partially offset any move by the Italian Communist Party to use the plotting to forge "anti-Fascist unity" within the left. Moreover, a move against extreme leftists might help stem any criticism from officials

25X1



25X1

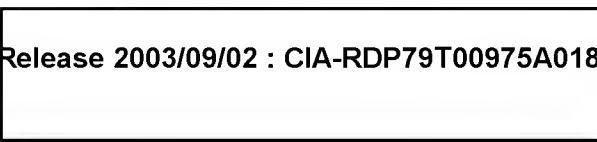
20 Mar 71

Central Intelligence Bulletin

10

25X1

Approved For Release 2003/09/02 : CIA-RDP79T00975A018600010002-3



25X1

Approved For Release 2003/09/02 : CIA-RDP79T00975A018600010002-3

Next 1 Page(s) In Document Exempt

Approved For Release 2003/09/02 : CIA-RDP79T00975A018600010002-3

25X1

Top Secret



Top Secret